

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

GROUP ART UNIT: 1761

BILLMERS, ET AL.

EXAMINER: TRAN LIEN, THUY

S.N. 10/646,429

FILED: 22 AUGUST 2003

FOR: STARCHES FOR REDUCED FAT

IN FRIED FOOD SYSTEMS

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the outstanding action dated 14 January 2009, in the above-identified application, having a period for response set to expire 14 April 2009 and extended three months by petition herewith to 14 July 2009, Applicant respectfully requests the following Request for Continued Examination (RCE), preliminary amendment and enclosed evidence be entered, and the claims considered in light thereof.

Applicants respectfully request that if the Examiner is not persuaded by the below arguments, that Applicants are allowed to interview with the Examiner prior to issuance of a final rejection.